

## CITY OF RIVERSIDE BUILDING & SAFETY DIVISION

## ANNOUNCING AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR NEW HOMES

## **Community Energy Efficiency Program (CEEP):**

The Community Energy Efficiency Program is a voluntary program designed by local governments, homebuilders, utilities and the California Energy Commission. The primary goal of the program is to encourage residential building practices that conserve energy and resources while improving government services and the economy. Each CEEP home is built to standards 15% above Title 24 energy efficient requirements.

CEEP homes have mechanically engineered HVAC systems, tight ducts, high performance windows and improved installation of all energy-efficient features. CEEP homes include inspections of the energy features and diagnostics of the HVAC system while under construction. All CEEP homes meet stringent ComfortWise<sup>SM</sup> standards and exceed Energy Star ® requirements.

There are five requirements that must be incorporated into the CEEP project.

- The HVAC system must be designed to Air Conditioning Contractors of America requirements (ACCA Manual J, D and S). The HVAC design must be stamped by an engineer registered by the State of California. The HVAC system must be installed according to the design.
- 2. The California Home Energy Efficiency Rating System (CHEERS) computer analysis must demonstrate that the home scores 87 or greater on its rating system, documenting that it meets or exceeds the Energy Star® requirements.
- 3. The California Energy Commission's "Tight Duct" criteria must be met.
- 4. The contractor must use "scope of work" and installing subcontractors (insulation, windows and HVAC) must be notified that these scopes of work will be used as the basis for qualifying inspections.
- 5. CHEERS inspection and diagnostic evaluations must be made by a third party agency. Evaluation of insulation, caulking, windows, water heating, furnaces and the AC system is included in the inspection. Duct blaster and blower door tests must be performed by a certified CHEERS rater.

## Incentives:

- The City of Riverside's Public Utilities Department will offer financial incentives of up to \$500 per home for the first 100 homes (\$50,000 total). The incentive is designed to help defray the costs to the builders of certification and promote building energy efficient homes. Incentives will be paid to the builders upon final inspection approval by the Building and Safety Division.
- 2. Projects that participate in this program will also be allowed to postpone the payment of the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF). Under the regular permit process, projects pay all permit and impact fees (including the TUMF fee) before issuance of the building permit. Under this program, builders would be allowed to postpone the TUMF fee payment to a point in time just prior to the completion of construction and prior to occupancy of the home.